IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Hanson S. Gifford III et al Confirmation No.: 2779

Appln. No. : 10/790540 Filed : March 1, 2004

Title : Devices and Methods for Performing a Vascular Anastomosis

Art Unit : 3733

Examiner : D.C. Comstock

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Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is in response to the Final Action, dated December 29, 2009, which set a shortened statutory period for response to expire on March 29, 2010. This Amendment is being filed within the period set for response and is made for the purposes of putting the case in condition for allowance or appeal. Applicants submit that that no additional search should be required and that only a cursory review is required by the Examiner as the amendment relates to a §112 rejection resulting from ambiguity that arose from the Amendment of August 17, 2009. A Notice of Appeal is concurrently submitted with this response.

No fee, petition or certification is required.